

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A phenol resin obtained by reacting phenolic compounds with formaldehyde and/or formaldehyde-forming compounds, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the phenol resin has a polydispersity of maximally 1.85 and a weight average molecular weight ( $M_w$ ) of maximally 600.
2. (Currently Amended) A The phenol resin according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said phenol resin has a polydispersity of maximally 1.7.
3. (Currently Amended) A The phenol resin according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said weight average molecular weight ( $M_w$ ) is maximally 520.
4. (Currently Amended) A The phenol resin according to ~~any one or more of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the weight percentage of phenol in the phenolic compounds is maximally 95%.
5. (Currently Amended) A The phenol resin according to ~~any one or more of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the weight percentage of phenol in the phenolic compounds ranges between 25 and 75%.
6. (Currently Amended) A The phenol resin according to ~~any one or more of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the phenolic compounds comprise bisphenols ~~an~~ and polyphenols.
7. (Currently Amended) A The phenol resin according to ~~any one of the claims 1-5~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said the phenolic compounds comprise low-molecular novolacs.

8. (Currently Amended) A The phenol resin according to claim 6, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said bisphenols comprise and polyphenols ~~have been obtained in the preparation of~~ p, p-bisphenol A.

9. (Currently Amended) A The phenol resin according to ~~any one or more of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the conversion of phenolic compounds, formaldehyde and/or formaldehyde-forming compounds ~~volatile resin-forming components~~ is at least 75%.

10. (Currently Amended) A The phenol resin according to ~~any one or more of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the conversion of phenolic compounds, formaldehyde and/or formaldehyde-forming compounds ~~volatile resin-forming components~~ is at least 90%.

11. (Currently Amended) A The phenol resin according to ~~any one or more of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the phenol resin furthermore comprises one or more components selected from the group consisting of fire retardants, plasticisers, fillers, colorants and binders.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of the phenol resin according to any one or more of the claims 1-11~~ A method for forming moulded products ~~obtained by~~ impregnating solid inert parts, ~~in particular impregnation paper,~~ with the phenol resin of claim 1 to form an assembly, and subsequently subjecting the obtained assembly to a pressing operation at an elevated temperature and an elevated pressure so as to form moulded products, ~~using an elevated temperature and an elevated pressure.~~

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that comprising~~ an impregnation paper having a weight of at least 160 g/m<sup>2</sup> ~~is used as the solid inert part.~~

14. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to according to claim 12 ~~any one or more of the claims 12-13, characterized in that comprising~~ an impregnation paper having a weight ranging between 250 and 400 g/m<sup>2</sup> ~~is used~~ as the inert part.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 12 ~~claims 12-14, characterized in that wherein~~ at least one surface of the assembly is provided with a decorative layer prior to or after said pressing operation.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 12 ~~any one or more of the claims 12-15, characterized in that wherein~~ a stationary press is used for pressing the moulded products in the pressing operation.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 12 ~~any one or more of the claims 12-15, characterized in that wherein~~ a continuous press is used for pressing the moulded products in the pressing operation.

18. (Currently Amended) A moulded product having a core of solid inert parts impregnated with the phenol resin according to claim 1 ~~any one or more of the claims 1-11~~.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The moulded product according to claim 18, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the thickness of the moulded product ranges between 0.2 and 50 mm.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The moulded product according to claim 18, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the thickness of the moulded product ranges between 0.5 and 20 mm.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)